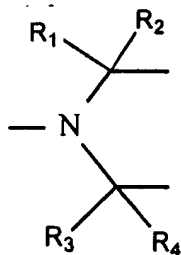


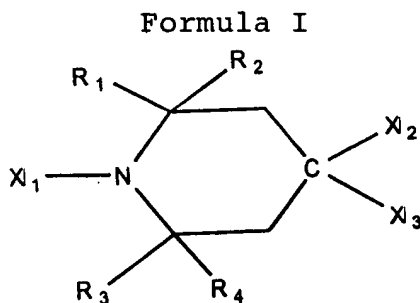
### AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) Method for stabilising the viscosity and/or the active chlorine content of liquid compositions containing alkali or alkaline-earth hypochlorites, comprising the addition to said compositions of 0.001% to 5% by weight of compounds belonging to the class of hindered amines containing the group:



wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$ , which may be the same or different, represent methyl or ethyl.

2. (Original) Method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the hindered amine has the general formula (I):



wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$ , which may be the same or different, represent methyl or ethyl;  $X_1$  represents H, methyl or ethyl, an oxygen atom, an -OH group or an  $OR_5$  group wherein  $R_5$  represents linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_4$  or cyclohexyl;  $X_2$  represents the groups -OH or  $-NHR_5$ , wherein  $R_5$  has the meaning

described above; or  $X_2$  and  $X_3$ , taken together represent an oxygen atom.

3. (Original) Method as claimed in claim 2 wherein groups  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  represent methyl.

4. (Original) Method as claimed in claim 2, wherein  $X_1$  represents oxygen,  $X_2$  is hydrogen,  $X_3$  is OH and groups  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  represent methyl.

5. (Original) Method as claimed in claim 2 wherein  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  represent hydrogen,  $X_3$  is OH, and groups  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  represent methyl.

6. (Currently amended) Method as claimed in claims 1-5 Claim 1 wherein liquid compositions containing active chlorine are thickened with soluble or water-dispersible polymers.

7. (Original) Method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the thickening polymers are homo- or co-polymers of acrylic acid.

8. (Original) Method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the thickening polymers are homo- or co-polymers of cross-linked acrylic acid.

9. (Currently amended) Method as claimed in claims 1 to 5 Claim 1 wherein the amount of stabiliser is between 0.005% and 3% by weight.

10. (Currently amended) Method as claimed in claims 1 to 5 Claim 1 wherein the active chlorine is present in the amount of between 0.5% and 10% by weight of the liquid composition.

11 -15. (Cancelled)

16. (New) A stabilized detergent composition prepared according to the method of Claim 1 for domestic and industrial cleaning and disinfection which may contain chelating agents of metal ions.